

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 were previously and under consideration.

Claim 29 has been withdrawn by constructive election.

Therefore, claims 1-28 are now pending and under consideration.

Claims 1-28 have been rejected.

Claims 1, 9, 10, 15, 21-24 and 28 have been amended herein.

No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Applicant requests entry of this Rule 116 Response because:

(a) the amendments of the claims should not entail any further search by the Examiner since no new features are being added or no new issues are being raised; and

(b) the amendments do not significantly alter the scope of the claims and place the application at least into a better form for purposes of appeal. No new features or new issues are being raised.

The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures sets forth in § 714.12 that "any amendment that would place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal may be entered." Moreover, § 714.13 sets forth that "the Proposed Amendment should be given sufficient consideration to determine whether the claims are in condition for allowance and/or whether the issues on appeal are simplified." The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures further articulates that the reason for any non-entry should be explained expressly in the Advisory Action.

DISCUSSION OF PRESENT CLAIM CHANGES

Independent claims 1, 9, 10, 15, 21-24 and 28 have been amended to remove "interactive(ly)". Entry of this After Final Amendment is proper because the scope of the claims are not significantly altered and the rejections are not affected.

It is respectfully noted that the addition of "interactive" did not alter the nature of the rejection. The same reference was relied on both before and after "interactive" was included in the claims. Furthermore, at the top of page 3 of the May 20, 2003 Office Action, the Examiner implied that "interactive" might be rejected under § 112, first paragraph. To avoid creating additional prosecution issues, "interactive" is herein deleted from the claims without prejudice or admission that the deleted feature is not supported by the specification.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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